Myrtle Beach Air Force Base

Size: 3,937 acres
Mission: Housed tactical fighter wing
HRS Score: NA
IAG Status: None
Contaminants: Spent solvents, fuel, waste oil, VOCs, metals, asbestos, paints, and thinners
Media Affected: Groundwater and soil
Funding to Date: $38.9 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): $22.6 million (FY2011)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for BRAC Sites: FY2002

Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

Restoration Background

In July 1991, the BRAC Commission recommended closure of Myrtle Beach Air Force Base. On March 31, 1993, the installation closed. Sites identified at the installation include landfills, weathering pits, fire training areas, drainage ditches, hazardous waste storage areas, maintenance areas, underground storage tanks (USTs), explosive ordnance areas, fuel storage areas, a small-arms firing range, and a lead-contaminated skeet range. Contaminants include petroleum hydrocarbons, heavy metals, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The installation has conducted Preliminary Assessments, Site Inspections, Remedial Investigations (RIs), and Feasibility Studies (FSs) for the identified sites.

Interim corrective measures (ICM) were initiated to treat a 50-acre trichloroethene (TCE)-contaminated groundwater plume. The installation also began Remedial Design (RD) and Treatability Studies for the small-arms firing range and firing-in buttress sites. RCRA Facility Investigations (RFIs) have been implemented for the drainage ditches, the Old Entomology Shop, the Armament Shop, and the Old Engine Test Cell. A joint management team, formed in FY91, assumed the role of a BRAC cleanup team in FY93.

In FY94, cleanup was completed at the skeet range. Interim measures include removal of contaminated soil at the weathering pit, removal of 28 USTs and 20 oil-water separators, and evaluation of the integrity of 18 other oil-water separators. In FY95, the installation began a pilot program to determine the applicability of bioremediation at a site contaminated with petroleum/oil/lubricants (POL). The installation prepared a BRAC Cleanup Plan (BCP) that outlined restoration strategies and efforts for all environmental programs at the installation.

The installation's Restoration Advisory Board (RAB), which formed in FY94, has reviewed funding, relative risk, and site cleanup information.

The BCP was updated in FY96. By the end of FY96, 48 percent of the base had been transferred by deed.

In FY97, the installation completed the RI/FS reports, and selected cleanup technologies, for several sites. It also determined the extent of lead contamination in soil at the small-arms firing range and submitted clean-closure plans to the state regulatory agency for two hazardous waste management units, corrective action plans (CAPs) for the hazardous waste tank facility, and draft CAPs for the UST sites. The installation completed a CAP for the Old Entomology Shop and expanded the CAP for the 50-acre TCE plume. Also in FY97, eight early Removal Actions took place, and the installation completed an RRSE for all sites.

FY98 Restoration Progress

ICM was completed for soil removal at the small-arms firing range and waste tank sites and is 50 percent complete at the Old Entomology Shop. Landfill caps were implemented at four sites. Additional data were collected, and supplemental RFI reports were completed for 12 sites. The installation implemented a CAP for air sparging at the MOGAS (motor gasoline) site and continued gathering data for a pilot study at the POL site. The CAP for four UST sites was finalized, and soil removal began at two of the sites. The RFI work plan was completed for two new sites, and a new site was scoped. A basewide monitoring plan was produced and implemented for all sites.

Plan of Action

- Complete ICM for the Old Entomology Shop, the New Entomology Shop, and the Armament Shop
- Design and begin installation of the groundwater remediation system at an off-base site
- Complete the corrective measures study and RD for three fire training areas, a weathering pit, and the POL site
- Implement RFI work plan for three sites and begin RD for two of the sites
- Continue monitoring of all sites

Sites Achieving RIP or RC Per Fiscal Year